

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Office of Local Government](#)  
**Subject:** Local council mergers  
**Date:** Thursday, 20 April 2023 7:26:35 PM

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I'm writing to voice my very big concerns concerning the proposed Tasmanian council mergers.

I believe that there will be a degradation of local identity for smaller communities whilst their needs get swallowed up by any higher population areas in their municipality.

Local councils are designed to serve the local community.

The state government is designed to serve the entire population.

If we remove the smaller community public servants to the degree that one municipality serves a large area, we are in fact removing a local service.

This is such a huge decision that should not be made "for us" but BY us.

We are considering a referendum on the national voice for indigenous peoples which will affect us all. Why would we simply allow a government to take away our local representatives.

I grew up in a small rural town that lost its identity as municipalities were merged.

We have very little sense of community in [REDACTED] compared to when I was a child. Services were removed. Businesses closed down. As a child we had a train station, small local shop, a hall and two churches. My family was very active in all areas of the community.

The [REDACTED] hall was built by the community via fund raising. The council sold it off without community consultation.

I can only imagine how events will unravel if the closest council was Launceston. Rural communities would be left without an council

That understood the specific needs of a rural community.

I've recently purchased a small farm in the Kentish Council and I can only feel that an amalgamation with Latrobe would be detrimental to the smaller, more remote towns in the area.

I've read a lot about the planned future of local Councils and the removal of smaller councils.

Rural, agricultural land needs a very sensitive approach to zoning and land use.

I can only see massive changes to rural life if amalgamations take place. And they don't feel to be positive at all.

Thank you for reading my email.

Can you please either pass this on to the relevant person or direct me to a more appropriate place to voice my concerns.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]